AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-125 (Canceled)

126. (Currently amended) A method for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with an isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% identity ~~or homology~~ with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2;

ii) ~~a polypeptide comprising at least 50% homology with amino acid residues 224 to 318 of SEQ ID NO:11;~~

~~iii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 43;~~

iv) a polypeptide comprising at least 20% identity ~~or homology~~ with ~~amino acid residues 117 to 184 of~~ SEQ ID NO:2; and

v) a polypeptide ~~homologue, allelic form, species variant or mutein~~ comprising at least ~~50% identity or homology with~~ amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2.

127. (Previously presented) The method of claim 126, wherein the polypeptide is recombinant.

128. (Currently amended) The method of claim 126 or 127, wherein said bacterial cell is present in a sample, and the method identifies ~~polypeptide is used in therapy, diagnosis or prophylaxis of~~ a microbial infection in the sample.

129. (Currently amended) The method of claim 128, wherein the cell is present in a patient ~~is immunotherapy~~.

130. (Previously presented) The method of claim 126 or 127, wherein said polypeptide is in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier suitable for local or systemic administration.

131. (Previously presented) The method of claim 126 or 127, wherein the polypeptide is in unit dosage form.

132. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising,

a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2

ii) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% homology with amino acid residues 224 to 318 of SEQ ID NO: 11;

iii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 43;

iv) a polypeptide comprising at least 20% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

v) a polypeptide homologue, allelic form, species variant or mutein comprising at least 50% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

133. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 132, wherein the composition is a vaccine.

134. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 133, wherein the vaccine is a live vaccine comprising an attenuated microbe.

135. (Withdrawn) A method for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with an antibody or functional fragment thereof that binds a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2

ii) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% homology with amino acid residues 224 to 318 of SEQ ID NO: 11;

iii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 43;

iv) a polypeptide comprising at least 20% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

v) a polypeptide homologue, allelic form, species variant or mutein comprising at least 50% identity or homology with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

136. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 135, wherein the antibody is suitable for use in therapy, diagnosis, or prophylaxis of a microbial infection.

137. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 136, wherein the therapy is an immunotherapy.

138. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 136, wherein the antibody is in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier suitable for local or systemic administration.

139. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 136, wherein the antibody is in unit dosage form.

140-143. (Canceled)

144. (Currently amended) A method for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with a cell strain expressing a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% identity ~~or homology~~ with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

~~ii) a polypeptide comprising at least 50% homology with amino acid residues 224 to 318 of SEQ ID NO: 11;~~

~~iii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 43;~~

iv) a polypeptide comprising at least 20% identity ~~or homology~~ with ~~amino acid residues 117 to 184 of~~ SEQ ID NO: 2; and

v) a polypeptide ~~homologue, allelic form, species variant or mutein~~ comprising at least ~~50% identity or homology with~~ amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

145-147 . (Canceled)

148. (New) The method of claim 126, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises at least 90% identity with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2.

149. (New) The method of claim 126, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises at least 95% identity with amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2.

150. (New) The method of claim 126, wherein the isolated polypeptide comprises amino acid residues 117 to 184 of SEQ ID NO:2.

151. (New) A method for stimulating the growth of a bacterial cell comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with the isolated polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

152. (New) A method for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with an isolated *M. luteus* RF-factor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), thereby resuscitating the dormant, moribund, or latent bacterial cells.

153. (New) A method for resuscitating dormant, moribund or latent bacterial cells comprising, contacting the bacterial cells with an isolated polypeptide comprising at least 85% identity with SEQ ID NO:2.

154. (New) The method of claim 153, wherein the polypeptide comprises at least 90% identity with SEQ ID NO:2.

155. (New) The method of claim 154, wherein the polypeptide comprises at least 95% identity with SEQ ID NO:2.

156. (New) The method of claim 155, wherein the polypeptide consists of SEQ ID NO:2.